

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A template for a scanning system, the template comprising:
a template body, and
an actuation device disposed on the template body for actuating a switch.

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2. The template according to claim 1, wherein the template further comprises an insert area for receiving a transparent media therein.

3. The template according to claim 1, wherein the template body is opaque.

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4. The template according to claim 1, wherein the switch is on a transparent media adapter and the actuation device is a protrusion.

5. The template according to claim 1, wherein actuation of the switch results in generation of a signal, the signal being transmitted to a computer operable to control the scanning system, the computer directing the scanning system to execute a scan routine in response to reception of the signal.

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6. The template according to claim 1, further comprising a plurality of actuation devices each for actuating a respective switch of a plurality of switches.

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7. The template according to claim 6, wherein the plurality of switches are disposed on a transparent media adapter, the adapter operable to transmit a plurality of signals each in response to a distinct combination of actuated switches.

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8. The template according to claim 7, wherein actuation of a distinct combination of switches results in the generation of a signal that is received by a computer operable to control the scanning system, the computer directing the scanning system to execute a scan routine in response to reception of the signal, the executed scan routine one of a plurality of scan routines executable by the system.

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9. A transparent media adapter for a scanning system, the adapter comprising:

an adapter housing;

a signal transmission mechanism disposed within the adapter housing; and

a switch disposed on the housing and actuatable by an actuation device on a template.

10. The transparent media adapter according to claim 9, wherein actuation of the switch results in transmission of a signal by the adapter, the scanning system executing a scan routine in response to generation of the signal.

11. The transparent media adapter according to claim 9, further comprising a plurality of switches disposed on the housing each respectively actuatable by one of a plurality of actuation devices, the adapter operable to transmit a plurality of signals, the transmitted signal dependent on the combination of actuated switches.

12. The transparent media adapter according to claim 9, further comprising a lamp located in the housing.

13. The transparent media adapter according to claim 10, wherein the adapter is connected to a reflective scanner by a cable, the transmitted signal being transmitted to the scanner over the cable, the scanner transmitting the signal to a computer coupled to the scanner by an external peripheral interface, the computer operable to direct the scanning system to execute one of a plurality of scan routines, the executed scan routine dependent on the transmitted signal.

14. A method of scanning an image on a transparent media in a scanner system, the method comprising:

actuating, by a template comprising an actuation device, a first switch on a transparent media adapter included in the scanner system;

transmitting, by the transparent media adapter, a signal to a computer connected to the scanner system in response to actuation of the switch; and

directing, by the computer, the scanner system to execute a scan routine associated with the signal.

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15. The method according to claim 14, wherein the actuation device comprises a protrusion, actuating the switch further comprising placing the transparent media adapter on the template such that the protrusion interacts with the switch.

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16. The method according to claim 14, wherein the transparent media adapter further comprises a plurality of switches, the template further comprising a plurality of actuation devices, actuating the first switch further comprising actuating two or more switches of the plurality of switches with two or more of the actuation devices, the transmitted signal dependent on the combination of switches actuated.

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17. The method according to claim 16, further comprising interrogating, by the computer, a database of scan routines each associated with one of a plurality of signals, the executed scan routine associated with the transmitted signal.

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18. A scanner system for optically scanning a media, the scanner system comprising:

a reflective scanner comprising a platen, a lamp, an optic system and one or more photosensitive devices;

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a transparent media adapter comprising a switch disposed on a housing of the transparent media adapter, the transparent media adapter operable to illuminate a transparent media and to transmit a signal to a computer coupled to the scanner system upon actuation of the switch; and

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a template comprising an actuation device for actuating the switch, the computer directing the scanner system to execute a scan routine upon reception of the signal.

19. The scanner system according to claim 18, wherein the transparent media adapter further comprises a lamp, the scan routine comprising activating the lamp of the transparent media adapter and deactivating the lamp of the reflective scanner.

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20. The scanner system according to claim 18, wherein the transparent media adapter comprises a plurality of switches and is operable to transmit a plurality of signals, the transmitted signal dependent on the combination of switches actuated, the template comprising a plurality of actuation devices, each of the plurality of switches respectively actuatable by one of the plurality of actuation devices, the computer having a database of scan routines each associated with one of the plurality of signals, the computer interrogating the database upon reception of the transmitted signal and the executed scan routine being associated with the transmitted signal.

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21. The scanner system according to claim 18, wherein the actuation device is a protrusion on the template.

22. The scanner system according to claim 18, wherein the transparent media adapter is connected to the reflective scanner via a cable and the reflective scanner is connected to the computer via an external peripheral interface.

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